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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

HEADQUARTERS
JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28307-5000

JSOC-J8 S&T

17 May 2016

Letter of Interest for: THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: JSOC Support for Small Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Testing
Frequency Authorization

1. References:

a. JSOC Endorsement of Boeing/ USSOCOM/SORDAC-SW-12-01 Cooperative Research and Development Agreement for UAS, signed 22 November 2013.

b. Title-47, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations

1. BACKGROUND: Mississippi State University (MSU), identified as the FAA's Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (COE UAS) has recently entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with The Boeing Company to conduct Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (SUAS) Flight Testing in support of their SUAS Research and Development Agreement with the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), USSOCOM/SORDAC-SW-12-01. This collaboration supports MSU's charter to further education and training in areas critical to safe and successful integration of UAS into the National Airspace System (NAS). The coordination for conduct of these flight tests has been tabled pending the review of the Frequency Authorization request submitted in accordance with Ref (a) which will significantly impact the research and development between the two parties.

2. JSOC has endorsed the subject UAS (ref. a), fully supports these flight tests and any requests for expedited review of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Special Temporary Authority (STA) that provides the frequency authorization to conduct these flight tests no later than June 17, 2016.

3. MSU COE UAS has a national Certificate of Authorization (CoA) allowing them to fly any UAS (public aircraft) under 55 lbs. up to 400' AGL in Class G airspace. In addition MSU has several "research CoAs" that allow them to fly up to 800' or 1000' AGL. MSU - Raspet Flight Research Lab (RFRL) frequently conducts UAS flight test research at pre-defined venues in Mississippi that consists of mostly very open and flat farmland.

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4. Points of contact for this request are: Mr. Mark Shook, JSOC, J-8 Science and Technology, shookm@jdi.socom.mil, 910-243-243-2483, or Mr. Peter Drain, The Boeing Company, peter.a.drain@boeing.com, (314) 705 -9332.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'm Shook', is positioned above the printed name.

MARK R. SHOOK
JSOC J8 Science and Technology